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Patent
Docket No: 55955US002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Sarah J. Davis et al.

Serial No.: 09/966,946

Filed: September 27, 2001

For: CERAMIC OXIDE PRE-FORMS, METAL MATRIX COMPOSITES, AND
METHODS FOR MAKING THE SAME

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

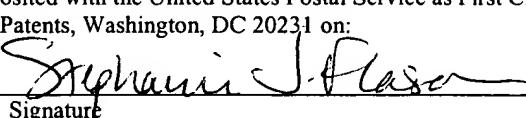
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

January 3, 2002

Date



Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the cited application.

In the Specification:

On page 30, please amend the paragraph starting on line 3 and ending on line 11 as follows:

A'
Suitable discontinuous ceramic oxide fibers (including whiskers) include those made of alumina, including alpha alumina and transitional aluminas (such as delta alumina), aluminosilicate fibers, and aluminoborosilicate fibers, and methods of making and/or sources of such materials, are known in the art. Discontinuous fibers can be made, for example, by cutting or chopping continuous fibers (including the continuous fibers discussed above). Examples of commercially available discontinuous ceramic oxide fibers include those marketed under the trade designation "SAFFIL" from J&J Dyson, Widnes, UK, "KAOWOOL" from Thermal Ceramics Inc., Augusta, GA, and "FIBERFRAX" from Unifrax, Niagara Falls, NY.